The Pacific

99th Year (First Issue Aug. 1, 1851) FEBRUARY, 1949 No. 2

HOLBROOK LIBRARY PACIFIC SCHOOL OF RELIGION

The official Centennial emblem, done by Mr. Kenwood S. Hunter, a loyal layman in the Orinda church. It shows the miners' scales for the weighing of gold and the Bible and a church edifice. This will appear on much of the literature that is published during 1949, and, when not in use, may be borrowed by churches, either in the above size or a little larger.

A New Road!!

At least, in comparison with the old road up the Cazadero hill, the new road will soon be looking like a superhighway. Sixteen-foot width guaranteed by the contract will allow ample room for passing, with 12 per cent maximum grade, almost a high-gear job.

Now we can begin to joke about it! Were you one of that mighty host who got stalled once on the big hill? Did you know it was 25 per cent grade? Have you said, "Never again will I go up that road, even to get to Caz"? Well, thanks to the Centennial program, now you can relax and take it easy—or, at least, a little easier.

Why dub a new road as part of a new century of pioneering? Well, we can hardly appeal to the Biblical prophecies of making straight in the wilderness a highway for our God. But it may not be too much of a stretch at that, if you could come up on the mountain with us to see what a change takes place within us in the Christian camp community experience. Words can't explain it very well, but the pioneers and pilgrims going out from Cazadero will provide their own evidence in the century ahead!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 20—Laymen's School of Churchmanship, Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley.

February 22, 23, 24—Pastoral Conference, Pacific School of Religion.

February 23 — Ministers' wives luncheon, 12:30, North Congregational Church, Berkeley.

April 17—Easter.

April 19, 20, 21—Rural Pastoral Conference, Davis, California.

May 15—Centennial observances in churches.

June 17-24—International Congregational Conference, Wellesley, Mass.

June 20-July 29—Summer session at Pacific School of Religion.

June 29-July 27—Sylvandale School for Pastors.

October 19-21—Annual meeting of Conference at First Church, San Francisco.

Our Century Club

Investing for the next century, on the strength of what the last one has brought forth, is a thrilling appeal to every Congregationalist. Think of the sacrifices made a century ago to found the first churches! Think of the courage it took to meet with six or eight or ten people to draw up the charter of a church.

Has the century justified their faith? A thousandfold it has, in terms of the fruit of their labor and vision.

Standing now at the century mark, looking forward, a good many of us are banding together as the "Century Club" of this Centennial celebration, to dedicate $100 as an investment in the next century of Congregationalism.

Century Club members now number in the dozens, but they soon should reach the 100 mark! Some people who "can't afford it," but who catch the vision of the pioneers, will join in anyway. Payments may be extended to March, 1950, if desired, and still capture the spirit of this century idea.

Although Century Club gifts, like any gifts to the $100,000 Centennial Fund, may be designated to a special project, it is hoped and expected that most of those who get the century idea will want to share in the entire program, for it is through a total advance that we shall together fulfill our destiny as pioneers.

Needless to say, any members of the Conference staff or of the Centennial committees will welcome inquiries about the Century Club, furnish free ink for you to sign on the familiar dotted line, and be ready to present you with your membership card. Don't delay—join today!

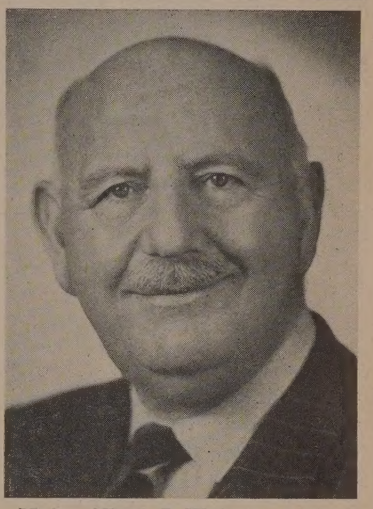
The Chairman Speaks

Where, except in the Church, would you find men celebrating the accomplishments of the first one hundred years of California history by surveying the needs of the people and planning to provide for their future betterment? As Christians we look back on the early days only for such inspiration as will help us to perform the task ahead. The leaders of our Congregational Conference have been telling you about the opportunity that exists in Northern California to locate new churches where the people have no places of worship at present, and how we should improve the inadequate facilities for training young people at Cazadero. The challenge is to all of the active membership of every church in the Conference, first, to become informed of the need; second, to plan a Centennial campaign in their own church; and, third, to share in the building of an investment fund of $100,000 to meet the need.

As chairman of the Centennial Campaign in the Northern California Congregational Conference, I appeal to the laymen and laywomen to rally to this task. Briefly, the organization that has been set up to do the job consists of a "Centennial Committee of One Hundred" with representatives in every church, a "planning committee" to map out the total program, and an "executive committee" of laymen representative of all the Associations of the Conference to supervise the raising of the money in each church. There will also be in every local church a committee of three, consisting of (1) a layman to solicit membership in the "Century Club" of $100 givers and to arrange for a special offering on Centennial Sunday; (2) a leading woman to be in charge of publicity in all organizations of the church; and (3) a young person to give information about the needs of Congregational Cazadero. Superintendent Harley H. Gill has already undertaken the task of soliciting large gifts for the campaign.

This is an appeal to you as a fellow member of the most democratic and progressive denomination of Protestantism to demonstrate that our founding fathers' conception of Christian democracy is worthy of our support. I ask you to pledge your time, energy, money, and your prayers to this great cause in our state in 1949.

—Albert J. Watson



Major Albert J. Watson, outstanding in business, civic affairs, and church, who has accepted the chairmanship of the California Congregational Centennial Celebration and Campaign. He has been active in the San Mateo Church for many years, and a member of the finance committee of the Northern California Congregational Conference.

OUR CENTENNIAL HYMN

(Tune: Autumn)

California, golden sandaled,
Decked in robes of living green,
Flashing gems are in her girdle,
On her brow a snowy sheen:
Throned upon her hills of beauty,
Flowers and fields before her strown,
Waves her hand in wide dominion,
Isles and oceans are her own.

Thou of wonders all majestic,
Spreading wide beyond our vale,
California, State Pacific,
Claim'st our greeting—thee we hail!
Bright shine thou in holy beauty,
Hallowed thy great future be!
Prospered in the field of duty,
Church, and school, and family.

Speed the day of her redemption,
Haste brave heralds of the truth,
Tell ye out life's gracious story,
Hallow now her radiant youth:
Hail the joy of her salvation,
Reapers, bring ye in your sheaves,
Sing of faith in love triumphant,
O'er a realm that Christ receives.

Dr. Joseph A. Benton, the writer of this hymn, came to California by way of Cape Horn in 1849. He founded the First Congregational Church, of Sacramento, and was the first professor of Pacific Theological Seminary. This hymn was written by Dr. Benton in 1855. It has been designated the "Centennial Hymn" for 1949 by vote of the Centennial Planning Committee. It should be used in all of our churches at any of their Centennial celebrations during the year.

CENTENNIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Albert J. Watson, chairman; John Neukom, Santa Clara Assn. (13 churches); James G. Yates, San Francisco (6 churches); Carvel Caine, East Bay, Div. 1 (9 churches); Ralph H. Anderson, East Bay, Div. 2 (8 churches); Duncan Olmsted, Redwood Empire Assn. (13 churches); Nels F. Sanderson, Upper Bay Assn. (8 churches); C. R. Van Buskirk, Central Assn. (6 churches); Fred Smith, Sacramento Assn. (15 churches); Merrill J. Nikkel, San Joaquin Assn. (8 churches); Harley H. Gill, State Conference, large gifts committee chairman; Sidney H. Buckham, ex-officio.

CONFERENCE DATES

The 93rd annual meeting of the Northern California Congregational Conference will be held on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, October 19, 20, and 21. Our host church will be our "Mother Church," the First Church of San Francisco. This Conference meeting will be an appropriate part of the Centennial observance of the Church, which was organized in July, 1849.

THIS IS THE PRE-CENTENNIAL ISSUE. PRESERVE IT!

The Pacific

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Rev. Harley H. Gill, Editor
Assisted by Staff Members

Staff and Officers of the Northern California Congregational Conference

Main Conference Office:
Rev. Harley H. Gill, Superintendent
1164 Phelan Bld., San Francisco 2, Calif.

Extension Office:
Rev. Sidney H. Buckham,
Director of Extension Work,
101 Tamalpais Rd., Berkeley 8, Calif.

Christian Education and Pilgrim Fellowship Office:
Rev. William W. Meyer,
Director of Christian Education,
2345 Channing Way, Berkeley 4, Calif.

Oak Park Out in Front

The newest Congregational church in the Conference is the Oak Park Church in Sacramento. This was formally organized on October 17, 1948, with 62 charter members. Compared with the meager beginnings of some of our churches in the 1850's, which began with ten charter members, the Oak Park Church is off to a good start under the very able leadership of Rev. Theodore Dunlap. Mr. Dunlap came to Sacramento soon after his graduation from Union Theological Seminary last June. Financial assistance is being given to this project by the Church Extension Division in New York and the State Conference. It is a major project of the Federation of Congregational Women of Northern California.

The Oak Park Church has been recognized by the Sacramento Valley Association and the Conference. A Sunday School and church services are held in the Odd Fellows Hall near the corner of Sacramento Boulevard and 34th Street. Many of the younger Negroes of the city are being attracted to this progressive fellowship, which is inter-racial.

New Sunday Schools

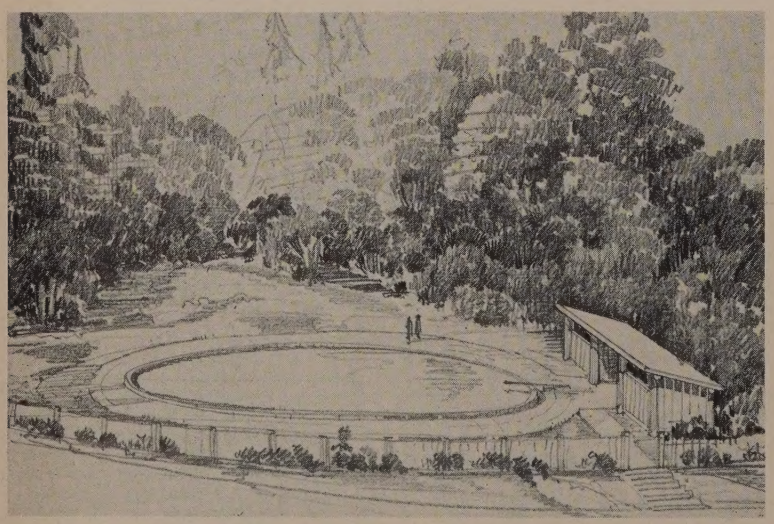
The first step toward establishing a new church is to start a Sunday School and to begin by ministering to the children of the neighborhood. Because of the rapid growth of new towns and subdivisions in California, there are hundreds of children in our state who are growing up without religious instruction. The task of meeting this need is so great that it requires the attention of all denominations in a cooperative forward movement to establish Sunday schools at points of great population increase. Public school executives are meeting the needs of the children as fast as they can, and the churches should do no less.

There are three new Sunday Schools that have been started within the past two years by our denomination. One of these is at La Selva Beach, six miles north of Watsonville. In this fast growing subdivision, the Congregational Sunday School meets in the Community Hall under the general supervision of the Rev. T. Davis Preston of Soquel. Mrs. John Opdyke is the superintendent, and she is assisted by an able staff of teachers. A student summer service team conducted a vacation school here in 1948.

An active Sunday School is meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lesley R. Jackson at 355 Pacheco Drive, in the Forest Hill area of San Francisco, just west of Twin Peaks. This school has an enrollment of 50 pupils, with a staff of six. Dr. James H. Woodruff of First Church, San Francisco, is in general charge of the program. The teaching staff includes Agnes Robb, Helen Thomas, Elizabeth Skagerberg, Barbara Staahl, Mrs. William Hudson, Eleanor Long, pianist, David Colburn and Lesley Jackson.

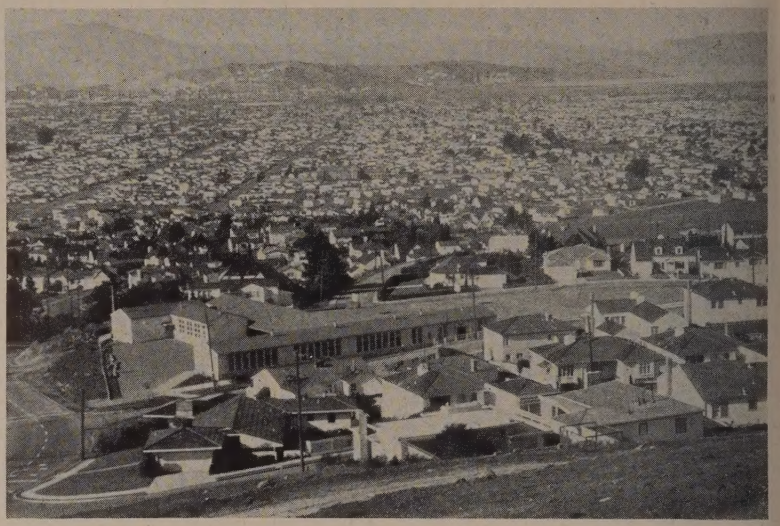
Up in Calaveras County in the lumber mill town of White Pines, we have a Sunday School which meets in the Community Hall. This school is the only place where children may receive religious instruction for many miles around. Mrs. David Powell is the superintendent, and assistance in the project is being rendered by Mark Tremain of Murphys. During the summers of 1947 and 1948 student summer service teams conducted vacation schools at White Pines.

(Continued in Next Column)



The new swimming pool will be a top-notch attraction for families as well as youth to our Camps at Cazadero. Filters will not only guarantee purity but also warmer water. The sun deck overlooking the ball field would centralize our recreation program. With only $6,000 written into Centennial budget for this project, laymen will be recruited for work parties when construction begins.

City of Richmond from Mira Vista Hillside District



Between the years 1940 and 1947 the city of Richmond has grown from 23,642 to 101,519. This puts Richmond in the upper brackets as one of the major cities of California. It is the only city of over 100,000 in the state that has no Congregational church.

The Church Extension Committee of our Conference has had its eyes upon Richmond for a year and a half. In 1948 the Comity Commission of the Northern California - Western Nevada Council of Churches granted the Congregationalists an allocation in the "Mira Vista" tract of this great city. This is a residential section, on the hillside east of San Pablo Avenue. All of the major churches of Richmond are west of San Pablo Avenue on the flats or downtown area. There is no church in the hillside residential district. This is the reason for the granting of an allocation to our denomination, because there are hundreds of homes in Mira Vista with many children who cannot cross the main boulevard to attend Sunday Schools in the downtown area. We have an opportunity for Christian service to these people, and we should proceed at once to acquire and build a church.

In June, 1948, a Student Summer Service team completed a survey of about one-half of the Mira Vista section of Richmond. They made 683 calls, and found 164 families who promised to support a Congregational Community Church. Among these families there are 275 children who will attend a Sunday School if we will start one.

The Church Extension Committee is looking for lots now that would be suitable for a church site. An available location has been discovered near the Mira Vista School. Richmond should have first consideration in the expenditure of money raised in the Centennial drive, because it is the most promising allocation that we have for new work in the immediate future.

In all three of these projects consideration is being given to the purchase of property for building a church. The carrying out of these plans in the future will depend largely upon the funds raised in the Centennial Campaign for Church Extension.

Courageous Pioneering for the Next Century

By Superintendent Harley H. Gill

"When gold is found, God is lost." There is truth in this old saying, but not the whole truth. Thousands of adventurers and gold seekers in their mad rush did forget God, but in those swirling days of 1849 there were others who brought the message of righteousness and goodwill and the saving love of our Lord Jesus Christ—Timothy Dwight Hunt and Joseph A. Benton and William C. Pond and J. H. Warren, and others. Churches were formed. Campaigns for righteousness and against evils were waged. Schools were established. Our own University had its forerunner in the College of California, launched by a group of dedicated Christian men and ministers. That is why we have our churches and Sunday Schools and youth activities and welfare programs today—and the great united fellowship called the Northern California Congregational Conference.

We have lived to see the day when another great surge of moving humanity, almost as great if not greater than any the world has seen, has come to our state. They came to man the war machine. They were young and strong, bringing their families with them. Soldiers, and sailors, and marines, who trained in our camps, have come back with their brides and babies to make this their home. And still they are coming. Scores of communities are without any formal religious instruction and training. The forces of secularism and the atmosphere of religious indifference threaten to engulf our youth. That is why the Northern California Congregational Conference is celebrating its Centennial not merely by saying, "Hurrah for the Pioneers," but by improving Cazadero for our youth and doing our part in meeting the religious needs of otherwise unchurched communities.

We are the people of whom the pioneers dreamed when they established the institutions which we enjoy. We are the people to whom those who come after us will look back with grateful eyes for the contribution which we make for their benefit. This moment, like every moment, is the climax of yesterday and the promise of tomorrow. We are the second runner in a relay, catching the baton from the pioneers that we honor, and leaping forward into the second century.

That is the significance of our California Congregational Centennial.

CHILDREN'S DAY AT SIERRA-ARDEN

Church in the great outdoors! Sunday School in seven homes! That is the way the vigorous young Sierra-Arden project has been compelled to carry forward. Now a new building is going up, largely by the craftsmanship of the laymen. "A New Church Before Easter" is their slogan.

A THRILLING STORY OF PIONEERING

"Beginning from scratch!" Rev. Joseph and Rev. Mary Chester can testify as to what that means. Arriving at the Sierra-Arden community, five miles northeast of Sacramento, on October 4, 1945, they moved into a parsonage which had been purchased by the Conference with money furnished by the Building Society.

Immediately they were at work contacting the people who lived in the 395 houses that had been built. (There are over 1,200 houses now.) Soon their living-room was overflowing with the Sunday School. Like a cell of living tissue, it divided and redivided until 250 children were housed in seven homes. A Women's Fellowship took shape. A Pilgrim Fellowship came into being, and then another, and now there are three young people's groups. Services of worship were held on occasion, and then more regularly. They have had six locations, which have included an oak tree on a lawn, a walled garden, an unfinished store without heat, and a large rumpus room above a garage.

Again with money furnished by the Building Society, the Conference purchased a wonderfully located site for a church. A well has been dug, a pump installed, and over it an artistic tile cover has been laid, much of the labor by the hands of lay people.

In the meantime the church has been organized, incorporated, and admitted into the Association. It has taken title to the property and, with further help from the Building Society and $10,000 raised among themselves, the first building unit is under construction. A $30,000 building is being erected with $15,000 cash and the volunteer labor of forty or more men. The budget for the operation of this whole project was furnished by the Conference and the Board of Home Missions on a fifty-fifty basis, but, beginning last October, the local church took over 20 per cent of it and an additional 20 per cent will be assumed beginning next October, and so on until self-supporting. Already it is a contributing church—contributing not only money but splendid leadership in our Pilgrim Fellowship and our laymen's work. The Chesters have been in much demand as speakers throughout the Conference.

CENTENNIAL MATERIALS

To Help Your Church Celebrate the Centennial

"CALIFORNIA'S GOLDEN BEGINNINGS," 16 mm color sound movie, telling the story of the early days, with a recording by Supt. Gill to top it off!

"ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF CONGREGATIONALISM IN CALIFORNIA," historical slide lecture, to be used with a visiting lecturer from the Centennial Speaker's Bureau or your own script-reader.

"HIGH POTENTIAL," color slide lecture telling of Pioneers, old and new, young and old, who have blazed trails for the Church.

"SPEAK TO OUR PEOPLE THAT THEY GO FORWARD," illustrated leaflet for parish-wide distribution, based on Supt. Gill's Centennial sermon.

"THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION, 1849-1949," illustrated leaflet outlining the challenge of the last century and the next.

"A CALL TO PIONEERS, 1849-1949," historical pageant first produced at the San Mateo annual Conference, adaptable for large or small cast, with place for local Church history to be put in.

PRE-CENTENNIAL ISSUE OF THE PACIFIC (this issue)—additional copies for free distribution.

SPEAKERS, with or without above programs, will be furnished for Church organizations and occasions, if we have sufficient advance notice.

CHURCH CALENDARS—for use on Centennial Sunday, with pages 1 and 4 attractively printed, pages 2 and 3 to be left blank for order of worship and announcements. Free.

Order movie film, slide lectures, and pageant from William W. Meyer, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley. Telephone—BErkeley 7-0721.

Secure speakers through Rev. Sidney H. Buckham, 101 Tamalpas Road, Berkeley. Telephone—AShberry 3-9587.

Order literature and extra copies of The Pacific from Conference office, 1164 Phelan Bldg., San Francisco. Telephone—EXbrook 2-2757.

All items free.

From Orchard To City Church

An apricot orchard close by a crossroads village, with a church which had almost ceased to exist due to changing population—that was the picture only a few years ago of San Lorenzo.

Presto! Today a city with 2,500 homes, spreading out from a modernistic business district! Parks and playgrounds! Two elementary schools!

We Congregationalists were in on the ground floor, buying one of those neat houses for a parsonage and, with the help of the Conference and Board of Home Missions and the local church, Rev. Homer A. Schwarz and his wife, Barbara, began work. What a struggle they have had, with a Sunday School alternating between the old church, three-quarters of a mile away, and the community hall, and sometimes divided between the two. People living in the community, uprooted from their old homes and working in shifts in war industries, brought serious personal and domestic problems. There was no "storefront" in which to begin work and a small building simply would not do. How could a structure large enough to minister to a town of 12,000 people be erected when there simply wasn't any money? Through the initiative and "never say die" effort of the minister and his workers, through the help given by the Conference and money furnished by the Building Society, the architecturally unusual Navy chapel from Camp Parks was secured and moved. There wasn't enough money to do the whole job, so untold hours of volunteer work have been put in. There is still much to be done on the building, but it is being used. It is the only Protestant church within the tract. Just now a process of reorganization is taking place so that the building can be fully utilized for the benefit of the many hundreds of children and youth as well as for their parents.

Even with the new church and the new children's building, the Orinda Sunday School overflows into tents. Here is the story!

A beautiful growing community, half rural and half suburban! A handful of Christian people! Some children that needed religious instruction! A back room in a former roadhouse! Out of these elements a Sunday School was born. A little later a community church with irregular pastoral service. Then the realization that, to meet the opportunities brought by tremendous growth in population, the sponsorship and fellowship of a denomination was needed. Such was the story of the beginnings of the Orinda Church.

The Northern California Congregational Conference extended a helping hand in securing a parsonage and in assistance with the minister's salary. Next followed the acquiring of a spacious and beautiful property and the raising of more than $35,000 toward a church plant.

At this juncture Rev. Fred R. Morrow was called from our Saratoga Church, and now in a few short years, at its annual meeting, a membership of 195 is reported with a gain of 38 per cent in 1948. Not only is missionary aid no longer needed, but $1,500 contributed to benevolences in a single year.

Amortization of the Building Society loan on the parsonage is going forward regularly. A structure belonging to the Navy at St. Mary's College, after many difficulties, was moved to the commanding site, dressed up into a very attractive and churchly building, with three large and attractive rooms, was dedicated on Sunday, January 16, and still the Sunday School is overflowing into tents. New facilities and space must be provided. Ultimately the church plant will be part of a great community project, with park and picnic grounds and recreation center.

More than this, from its membership the church is furnishing leadership for Conference and Federation departments and committees. The Christmas and Easter services are held in the Orinda Theater with attendance running from 600 to 1,000. Orinda is a splendid example of what vision and devotion on the part of a few people when coupled with assistance from the fellowship of churches can bring about.

Extra Copies of This Pre-Centennial Issue Available Free for Distribution. Send Orders to THE PACIFIC, 1164 Phelan Building, San Francisco 2, California.

WOMEN'S FEDERATION NEWS

Mrs. Ralph D. Hyslop, Correspondent

This issue of The Pacific is presenting the past and future of Congregationalism in California. Many of you reading this will remember the days of "The Branch" and the Women's Home Missionary Union, which preceded the present Federation. But in these days we want to think not only of the fine history of the Federation, but of the year ahead, when we hope to take great steps forward.

Our women who are on the Centennial Committee are Mrs. E. B. Kientz, Mrs. E. W. Benedict, Mrs. Grace Buckham, and Mrs. R. A. Fuller. Both Mrs. Benedict and Mrs. Buckham have been asked to be on the Speaker's Bureau for the Centennial and will be available for women's groups. Many of you will want to take advantage of this for your programs.

During this next month, will you also be thinking about the following ideas. They have been presented to the Centennial Committee by Mrs. E. W. Benedict of Pittsburg, and it is hoped that some or all of them could be carried out with the cooperation of the Federation, with the comissioners working through their own groups. You will be hearing more about this in February, and any further ideas or suggestions will be welcomed.

Essay Contests: For the children of the Sunday Schools and Pilgrim Fellowship. Subjects suggested: Why I am a Congregationalist, The History of My Local Church, some Outstanding Congregationalists.

Poster Contest: Posters by the children and young people about the church and church program and Centennial.

Photography Contest: For young adults. Pictures to be taken of their local church in action and still life, the building, interior, towers, activity groups, etc.

Winners for all of these to receive honors—perhaps a week at Cazadero, and the materials to be used at State Conference.

Music Festivals: A committee to select anthems and choral numbers, which would be sent to all church choirs. Each choir could work on the numbers, then choirs of neighboring churches could get together for a concert. Choirs of associations could have a concert, and finally all choirs massed in a big concert at State Conference under one of the most capable directors. A hymn written by Rev. J. A. Benton will be used as the Centennial hymn, and can be used for congregational singing. It appears in this issue.

With regard to these suggestions, Mrs. Benedict says, "The reason for these contests is to stimulate interest in our churches, through all their departments. I feel that the Centennial should help to create an enthusiasm for our churches. We will grow in spirit and in numbers and in giving. We are on the threshold of another century. Much has been accomplished in the first century. We look ahead to a greater church, working together, singing together, worshipping together."

Report of Annual Meetng

The twenty-fifth annual meeting of the Federation was held on January 20 at First Church, San Francisco. The Rev. J. H. Woodruff, acting minister of the church, opened the meeting with prayer, and Mrs. Marion Leary, president of the Women's Association, brought greetings from the women. Mrs. C. R. Claiborne presented the secretaries of the Federation, each of them giving a "call" for their work and needs. Mrs. Claiborne reminded us that they are our representatives, that their success depends on us and that they also represent "horizons unlimited" in terms of the jobs that can be done.

Mrs. Robert Whitaker, recently from overseas, gave a most interesting talk on China. She spoke of China as it is, after 13 years of war, with its disrupting effect to the moral as well as physical condition of the people. As all the resources are used, inflation comes, and people are forced out of business over such a long period, it is not strange that there is corruption, and robbery, since the moral and economic structure breaks. The hope for this situation lies in the young people and a remnant of the older Christians who are so eager to serve and help their country. It would be a calamity not to try to reach them at this time. China must have loyal Christian people who can be trusted. As long as our missionaries can stay there, we must help them, even though our government finds it necessary to leave China alone.

At the fine luncheon served by the women of the church, Mrs. J. H. Woodruff presided. Superintendent Gill gave a history of our Conference and its forerunners. This may be published, in part at least, in some future issue of The Pacific.

The main speaker of the afternoon session was Rev. Robert Moon of Park Presidio Church. His topic was "Peace Is My Responsibility," taking as a background his travel through Europe last summer, where he felt that the need for peace was greater than the need for food. He said that peace is our responsibility and cannot be put upon someone else—Hitler, Russia—or God. The things that have happened are in part our fault and we have to do something about it. In the case of the tension between Russia and ourselves, it takes two parties to create a tension, and it is up to us to help lessen it.

He went on to suggest that we learn to live at peace with ourselves, our family and our neighbors, then get a better perspective on world affairs. We can do this by taking what we read in the newspapers and hear on the radio with many grains of salt. It is better to read well written books. And finally we will speak peace and not war. We will assume that we can create a more peaceful atmosphere and make some compromises.

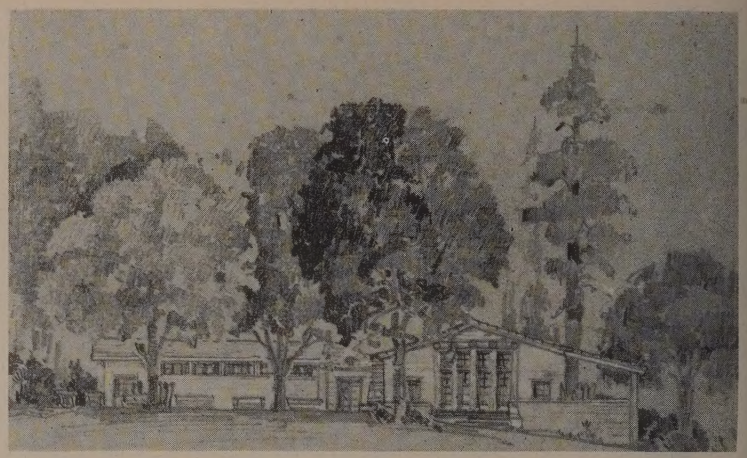
The meeting was concluded with a worship service conducted by Rev. George W. Lindsay of Oakland.

Save the date of Thursday, February 17, for the next meeting of the Federation at First Church, Oakland. The speaker will be of the greatest interest to us all. Miss Anna Dederer is a German missionary of the American Board to Micronesia. She will give a first-hand report of the arrival of the Morning Star VI and the work being done in the islands there. She was interned on Truk during the war and will have many interesting experiences to relate.

Mrs. E. B. Kientz is continuing as our president, and we are all most happy that she is to lead and inspire us another year. She has a full-time job, as indicated by her report of this past year of meetings and activities.

Mrs. W. W. Meyer presented the names of new officers and conducted the installations. The list will appear in the March issue of The Pacific.

PROPOSED MAIN BUILDING AT CAZADERO



The Centennial Fund will bring much needed improvements to our Cazadero Camp beside the road and the swimming pool. A new social hall, as pictured above, would replace the 60-year-old ranch house.

Modesto Marching

The College Avenue Congregational Church of Modesto has not been organized as yet, but the project is going ahead with surprising enthusiasm. Rev. Elmo D. Wolfe moved with his family into the stucco parsonage last September. The Church Building Society purchased three acres of vineyard with house at the corner of Orangeburg and College Avenue in North Modesto, in May, 1948. Adjacent to this property construction has started on the new Tully School and across the street on College Avenue the Modesto School Department is negotiating for a large piece of property for a new junior high school. About a half mile south of the church site is the campus of the Junior College.

Sunday services are held in the parsonage with a choir under the direction of Victor McLane. While the parents are worshipping before the fireplace in the living room, the children are cared for in the large basement of the parsonage. It is the hope of the Modesto fellowship that the first unit of a "campus church" with several buildings for various purposes may be constructed soon. Without such an initial project the Modesto Church is seriously handicapped. Some financial assistance from the Centennial funds could be used in Modesto now to good advantage.

Portsmouth Plaza

In observance of the Centennial, the city of San Francisco is constructing a replica of Portsmouth Plaza. This was the center of the old city of San Francisco in the gold rush days. Among the buildings being reproduced will be the old public school house where Rev. Timothy Dwight Hunt conducted services in 1848 and where the First Congregational Church of San Francisco was founded on July 31, 1849. We recommend that the next time you visit San Francisco after March 1 you go over to Portsmouth Plaza, at the corner of Kearny and Clay Streets in Chinatown.

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